

are compared. As shown in FIG. 57, in the IE-type trench IGBT device "X", the switching loss is shown as a change of about 30% when the resistivity is changed about 27% (corresponding to variations in the resistivity in the axial direction of the CZ crystal ingot), whereas in the non-IE-type trench IGBT device "Y", the swinging loss becomes a change of about 90% equivalent to three times the above change. Such a range of vibration is generally hard to be allowed as for a product.

[0530] This is because as shown in FIG. 56, the injection efficiency of the back surface diode must be increased to reduce the on resistance in the non-IE-type trench IGBT device "Y", whereas in the IE-type trench IGBT device "X", the whole hole distribution becomes relatively flat for the hole storage effects on the front side. Increasing the injection efficiency of the back surface diode in this way causes a demerit that the dependence of various characteristics on crystal concentration becomes steep.

[0531] Thus, the IE-type trench gate IGBT according to each embodiment of the present application is generally allowed as a product even depending on the crystals grown by the CZ method, and its device design is enabled. A problem however arises in that when the CZ crystal is annealed in the vicinity of 450° C., a Thermal Donor occurs so that a substantial N-type impurity capability or concentration rises. Thus, in this case, it is preferable to use, even among the CZ crystals, one grown by an MCZ (Magnetic Field Applied CZ) method which is relatively low in oxygen concentration. Even among MCZ crystals, the crystals grown by an HMCZ (Horizontal MCZ) method, a CMCZ (Cusp MCZ) method, etc. in particular are suitable in particular. The oxygen concentrations of these low oxygen MCZ crystals normally range from about $3 \times 10^{17} \text{ cm}^{-3}$ to $7 \times 10^{17} \text{ cm}^{-3}$. On the other hand, the oxygen concentration of an FZ (Floating Zone) crystal is normally $1 \times 10^{16} \text{ cm}^{-3}$ or so. The oxygen concentration of a normal CZ crystal free of the use of a magnetic field is normally $1 \times 10^{18} \text{ cm}^{-3}$ or so.

[0532] Incidentally, assuming that a range from about 600 volts to about 1200 volts in breakdown voltage is taken as the range for resistivity of a high resistance CZ crystal particularly adapted to the IGBT, the resistivity range becomes a range from about 20 $\Omega \text{ cm}$ to about 85 $\Omega \text{ cm}$.

[0533] Thus, when the CZ crystal is used in the IGBT, the CZ crystal has a merit that it is strong in mechanical strength and resistant to thermal distortion unlike the FZ crystal low in oxygen concentration. The CZ crystal also has a merit that it is relatively easy for a wafer to increase in its diameter as compared with the FZ crystal. The more the increase in its diameter, the more the problem of thermal stress becomes important. Therefore, the usage of the CZ crystal is increasingly advantaged. When wafers each having the same diameter are compared in unit price, the CZ crystal is much cheaper (50% or so of FZ crystal in 8 inches).

[0534] Although not essential, it is advantageous for the IE-type trench IGBT device using the CZ crystal to reduce the injection efficiency of the back surface diode in terms of switching characteristics. It is advantageous to use the back-surface aluminum-based contact structure described in the section 13 (refer to FIG. 49). That is, even though the concentration of the P+ type collector region 18 (refer to FIG. 49) is reduced, a satisfactory contact can be ensured by the combination of the aluminum-doped region 30 and the aluminum back-surface metal film 17a.

[0535] Incidentally, the CZ crystal described in this section can be applied to all the embodiments described in the present application.

[0536] 19. Supplementary Explanations Related to Cell Area Peripheral Structure (Refer Principally to FIGS. 58 and 59):

[0537] The description of this section is basically related to supplementary explanations related to the section 14.

[0538] FIG. 58 is an enlarged top view of the cell area corner cutout region R4 of FIG. 6 and its periphery, which illustrates a portion (peripheral portion other than the cell area in particular) approximately identical to FIG. 50 in more detail. FIG. 59 is a device sectional view (corresponding nearly to FIG. 52) corresponding to the section taken along line H-H' of FIG. 50. The supplementary explanations related to the cell area peripheral structure will be made based on these.

[0539] As shown in FIG. 58, a single to a few dummy cell areas 34 (linear dummy cell areas) are provided at the end of the cell area 10 in the widthwise direction of each linear unit cell area 40 (refer to FIG. 4) (in the width direction of each of the linear active cell areas 40a, linear inactive cell areas 40i and the like). A P+ type body contact region 25d is provided in the dummy cell area 34 in a manner similar to the linear active cell area 40a.

[0540] On the other hand, an area not formed with an end trench gate electrode 14p and an N+ type emitter region 12 and the like relatively narrow in width (width of the same degree as the linear active cell area 40a) (no N type hole barrier region 24 is formed either in this example) is provided at the longitudinal end of the linear unit cell area 40 (refer to FIG. 4) as each end buffer area inclusive of the area in which the previous dummy cell area 34 is provided. A ring-shaped P type cell peripheral junction area 35 (second conductivity type cell peripheral junction area) is provided outside these end buffer areas so as to surround these. A P type cell peripheral region 16p (peripheral second conductivity type region) that configures the P type cell peripheral junction area 35 is formed in the same process as the P type floating region 16 simultaneously therewith, for example.

[0541] Each trench gate electrode 14 extends over the P type cell peripheral junction area 35 from the cell area 10 as a gate lead-out portion 14w. A number of P+ type body contact regions 25p (this portion corresponds even to a peripheral contact portion 41) each having a structure similar to the cell area 10 are provided within the P type cell peripheral junction area 35.

[0542] A metal emitter electrode 8 covers up to the peripheral external portion of the cell area 10 and is electrically coupled to the P type cell peripheral region 16p at the peripheral contact portion 41. A metal gate wiring 7 extends to the peripheral portion of the metal emitter electrode 8 and is interconnected with the gate lead-out portion 14w at a metal gate wiring-trench gate electrode coupling portion 13.

[0543] Next, a section taken along H-H' of FIG. 58 is shown in FIG. 59. As shown in FIG. 59, a P type body region 15 is provided in the surface 1a of the semiconductor substrate 2 in the linear inactive cell area 40i and the P type cell peripheral junction area 35 or the like in a manner similar to FIG. 52. An end trench gate electrode 14p is provided in the neighborhood of the boundary between the linear inactive cell area 40i and the P type cell peripheral junction area 35 and serves as part of the end buffer area. A P type floating region 16 is provided on the lower side of the P type body region 15 lying below the